

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 15

Introduced by Assembly Member Chesbro

February 12, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 15—Relative to wineries.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 15, as introduced, Chesbro. Wineries: leadership.

This measure would proclaim April 2013 as the “California Wines: Down to Earth” month, to celebrate the sustainable leadership of California wineries and winegrape growers.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Sustainability is a vital part of the long-term future
- 2 of California wine, which contributes an estimated \$61.5 billion
- 3 in annual economic impact to California’s economy; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The Wine Institute and the California Association
- 5 of Wine Grape Growers created the California Code of Sustainable
- 6 Winegrowing workbook more than a decade ago, with the third
- 7 edition released in January 2013, and it has since been used by
- 8 vineyards and wineries representing three quarters of California’s
- 9 wine grape acreage and production to self-assess operations; and
- 10 WHEREAS, The California Code of Sustainable Winegrowing
- 11 Program, now managed by the California Sustainable Winegrowing
- 12 Alliance, is comprised of more than 200 best practices for
- 13 vineyards and wineries that benefit the environment, employees,
- 14 neighbors, and high-quality wine; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Other state and regional sustainability programs,
- 16 such as Lodi Rules, Sustainability in Practice (SIP), Napa Green,

1 Fish Friendly Farming, the Green Business Program, and others,
2 all play an important role in the California wine communities’
3 efforts to grow grapes and produce wine in a manner that is
4 environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially
5 equitable; and

6 WHEREAS, Growing participation in organic, biodynamic, and
7 sustainable certification programs further conveys California
8 vintners’ and growers’ adherence to high standards, desire for
9 transparency, and dedication to continuous improvement; and

10 WHEREAS, California’s wine community conserves water,
11 energy, and other natural resources, protects habitat, employee
12 welfare, and air, water, and soil quality, and promotes the use of
13 natural pest management and alternative energy and fuels; and

14 WHEREAS, California’s 3600 wineries and 4600 winegrape
15 growers are primarily family businesses, with a long-term
16 commitment to the health and vitality of their communities, and
17 to preserving the land for future generations; now, therefore, be it

18 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
19 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature proclaims April 2013 as
20 the time to celebrate the sustainable leadership of California
21 wineries and winegrape growers with the theme, “California Wines:
22 Down to Earth” month, timed to Earth Day on April 22nd; and be
23 it further

24 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
25 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.